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# SOCCER WORLD

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15c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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CONTINENTAL  
CHOCOLATES

## Victoria blasted

# ALL STATES UP IN ARMS OVER AUS. CUP

— By PAUL DEAN —

The fate of the Australia Cup is in the uncertain and unsavoury lap of Victoria, fast acquiring a reputation as the most mischievous, egocentric and parochial organisation soccer in Australia has ever been cursed with.

Last weekend at the annual general meeting in Brisbane a pitched battle between the mid-Victorians and the other States failed to settle the issue.

The Victorian delegates still claim that the Executive decision of January setting out details for the Cup were meant for 1969, not for 1968.

Using an innocent typographical error in the

minutes as their only excuse, the Victorian delegates are quite prepared to cheerfully kill the Cup to suit their selfish, petty interests.

All other States in Australia are in favor of the Cup being held, as decided by the Executive — except Victoria.

They say that they have "no way of determining"

who should compete in 1968.

How all the other States managed to make such determination in time and why Victoria didn't bother is another story.

The three Victorian delegates were given until March 4 to report back to their clubs and then notify the ASF of their decision about the Cup.

The chances are that many Victorian clubs don't even realise how badly they are represented by some of their delegates.

Should Victoria still vote against the Cup being held, the ASF is likely to resort to tough action.

One alternative is that the ASF will simply invite Victorian clubs to nominate for the Cup — without the consent of the Victorian Federation.

If any of these nominating clubs is disciplined by the Victorian Federation, the ASF may be forced to take the most drastic action possible — suspend the entire Victorian Federation.

Another alternative is — and there is a growing support for this — to run this year's Australia Cup entirely without Victorian participants.

This would cause little hardship for the others as only one or two Melbourne clubs have any sizeable support anyhow.

Whatever decision is finally taken, the Victorians have already created havoc.

Because of this totally unexpected stand by Victoria, the start of the Australia Cup is likely to be put back by about a month, to April.

Most Sydney clubs are up in arms about this incredible attitude of Victoria.

Said one Sydney club president:

"I wonder if the recently proclaimed aim of the NSW Federation, that of establishing friendly, good relations with Victoria can ever be achieved.

"They are so insanely antagonistic to NSW that they seek to block every move which is supported by us.

"So far it was always NSW which had to lean over backwards to please and placate Victoria.

"We did this last year in the Cup, even to the extent of giving them the final.

"But now we've had enough. The Victorians obviously regard the relationship as a one-sided love affair in which NSW has to make all the concessions while Victoria, like a peevish child, gets its own way.

"Personally I don't give a damn whether they compete in the Cup.

"If they don't, it's only their loss; we'll have no trouble to fill their places."



ALAN MARNOCH and BRIAN SMITH vying for possession last Sunday.

## Brisbane meet was total waste of time

Last week's ASF annual general meeting at Brisbane, followed by an executive meeting, was one of the most unsuccessful and negative on record.

Much of the time was spent on haggling how to re-distribute the ASF Council votes among the States.

Proving our theory that the ASF is nothing more than a market place to bargain and horse-trade for State interests, the meeting hardly mentioned soccer at all.

### BLOC VOTE

And whenever the subject of the game of soccer did crop up, there was always someone suggesting a deferment because of "lack of time".

This is how the various issues were dealt with:

**VOTING RIGHTS:** — It remains the same, that is, NSW and Victoria between them having six votes and the other States 11, continuing the paradox whereby major decisions affecting Australian soccer are made by the small, at times almost insignificantly small States.

**MERDEKA TOURNAMENT:** — Western Australia — using the well-oiled bloc voting machine — managed to reverse January's Executive decision and gained permission to compete in the tournament.

**NAPOLI TOUR:** — No decision because of fresh financial demands by Napoli and lack of "sponsors". The possibility of inviting Napoli unsponsored or inviting another team through available channels did not arise.

**OVERSEAS TOUR:** — Although no firm decision was made, there wasn't any

firm plan or submission indicating that an Australian team will play anywhere overseas this year.

**NATIONAL TEAM:** — Despite the Australian Coaches Federation being represented and a detailed plan previously submitted to the ASF, there wasn't even any discussion on this subject: "lack of time" being the excuse. Now a sub-committee will meet soon, at extra cost, to look at the plans the AGM should have made but couldn't be bothered. However, to show their "interest" in the subject, the AGM slashed the national team budget from \$15,000 to \$10,000 a year.

## WA wants Rhodesians

The Western Australian Federation has applied to stage the Australia v. Rhodesia World Cup elimination match in Perth.

Should the Rhodesians decide not to withdraw, Perth would be an ideal venue for the match because of its geographical position.

Rhodesia's participation in the Asian-Oceania World Cup group is, however, still in doubt following the Asian Confederation's protest to FIFA about the arbitrary inclusion of a black-listed African nation in the group.

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# Why go past?



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# Pre-season games at Tempe

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Lane Cove, Marrickville, Earlwood and Enmore are playing a pre-season competition each Sunday during March at Mackey Park, Tempe.

Lane Cove are from Federation Second Division, Marrickville and Enmore from Inter Suburban League, and Earlwood, the Canterbury club, were the amateur champions of champion all-age team of Sydney.

Enmore gained a 4-4 draw in a recent trial against the club promoted to Federation Second Division, North Sydney Inter.

The draw was gained without the services of star forward Pikula, who returned to Greece to see his family.

Club officials hope he will be back in Sydney for the premiership.

Another handy forward, Gatis, returned recently from a trip to Darwin.

Marrickville, one of Sydney's strongest amateur units, have conducted a wide search for promising players.

Secretary Tom Sanders has five new men, three of whom have proved goal-scoring ability in this class of football.

More finish in the forwards could make Marrickville the amateur team to watch in Inter Suburban First Division.

Night training has been going on since late January.

Particular effort is being put into having both amateur grades at a peak of fitness and in working combinations when round one of the premiership kicks off.

Meanwhile, the University of NSW club is conducting trials, although many players are just returning to Sydney from their country homes.

Greater numbers than ever of 'varsity players are turning out.

The Inter-Varsity Australian Championship this year will be played in Tasmania.

Preliminary thought is being given to a Inter-Varsity competition taking in Sydney, and perhaps Wollongong College and Newcastle University.

Details will be discussed during the year, when the feasibility will be fully explored.

Meanwhile, secretary Bill Jamieson says Wales has little to fear.

Two players so far enrolled bear the illustrious names of Bobby and Jackie Charlton.

Our special tip for the year then must be University of New South Wales for the Inter Suburban First Division.

## ST. GEORGE EXPANDS

St. George Association this year will field 200 teams for the first time ever.

Entries actually are bound to reach 220 teams, which is a far cry from the 1956 figure of 34 teams.

No wonder other codes are really concerned about soccer's increasing attraction for the youth of the State.

All club entries to date show a big increase on 1967.

Peakhurst has increased by six teams to 36 teams, making it one of Sydney's biggest junior soccer clubs.

Three clubs drawing players from the Forest Road jointly field 76 teams.

Entries from Arncliffe RSL, Forest Rangers, Lugarno-Peakhurst are all ahead of last year with final entries from big clubs such as Sans Souci still to come.

New clubs have entered strongly from Penshurst and Connells Point, and Arncliffe Scots will also be well represented.

Rockdale Youth Centre club is countering efforts by one code to deprive them of McCarthy Reserve, Bay Street.

The club has spent \$2,000 on ground improvements, and has no intention of being muscled out.

Fortunately for the Saints, a big increase in cadet referees will enable them to handle the 110 Saturday matches each week.

Progress is being made on every front.

The under 14, 15 and 16 St. George District representative teams will be decked out in new sets of red and white vertically striped shirts.

St. George-Budapest have presented each represen-

tative team with a new football.

The under 13 St. George side will go to Gunnedah in May to defend the Park-Howard Trophy.

St. George held the cup against a challenge from Muswellbrook last year.

Previous cup matches have been played against Canberra and Lismore, which shows how far the Saints go to foster the game.

Last year three teams played in Muswellbrook.

This year the team which does best in representative games will enjoy a week's tour to the country.

Don't be surprised if St. George turns up in Armidale this year.

Federation referee Wayne Mason is an Armidale product, and a St. George man by adoption.

He aims to see St. George visit the Armidale district, which under the leadership of president Howard Wheaton, is roaring ahead.

St. George's primary schools development scheme is a model for all districts.

The Association matches each \$10 club donation, which means that secretary Sid Tanner so far this year has \$200 worth of footballs to hand over to the St. George PSAAA soccer committee.

The schools run three grades of primary soccer—senior, juvenile and junior.

One of the best features is that under 16 representatives are again moving into St. George-Budapest's third team, which will give the senior club and the amateurs an even greater sense of purpose.

# SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

NEIL INNES, Thistle goalkeeper (ex-Bankstown), was awarded the military medal for bravery in Vietnam. Innes, a sapper with the First Field Squadron since 1966, was cited for rescuing two wounded American gunners from a minefield. Innes, by his immediate and courageous action, prevented the detonation of a second mine and his swift marking of a safe lane made possible the evacuation of the wounded.

Canterbury are without any of the three GREEK PLAYERS supposed to join them immediately. They are anxiously waiting to hear from their club official presently in Greece.

The captain of the Papua-New Guinea team, goalkeeper PAUL SOWINI, was interviewed by discjockey, Bob Rogers, on his morning program last Tuesday. The well-spoken Sowini expressed surprise at the term "Fuzzy-Wuzzy". Said Sowini: "None of the players ever heard the word before, and don't know what to make of it."

The Management Committee reduced the transfer fees of some Croatia players, which now stand at: \$800 Collazzo, \$800 Massey, \$400 Murua, \$100 Mitchell, \$50 A. Jones, \$50 Gergely, \$400 Swoboda, \$200 Nadj.

JIM BAYUTTI has postponed his business trip to Europe. He was due to leave at the end of the month, but may only go in May.

Bankstown last Saturday was host to members of the visiting British warship HMS TRIUMPH. A social game between Bankstown and the sailors resulted in a 1-1 draw.

Polonia-North Side have issued the following statement regarding their DISPUTE with Western Suburbs over the use of Concord and Drummoyne Ovals: "Drummoyne Council has agreed to allow Polonia to play one match at Drummoyne Oval on the condition that Western Suburbs guarantee payment for the ground. The dispute over Concord and Drummoyne Oval with Western Suburbs is now in the hands of the Federation Management Committee. Polonia will protest to the local MP about the intolerable discrimination and bias of Drummoyne Council".

Pan Hellenic will stage a BARBECUE evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peters, Aboud Avenue, Kingsford, on March 9.

EASTERN SUBURBS is Sydney's smallest soccer association numerically, yet there is no reason why it should not ultimately join the big-timers. Entries for the Eastern Suburbs round-robin close on March 18, and matches start on April 6. The biggest clubs in the Association are Hakoah, Moore Park, Maroubra United, Pan Hellenic-Waverley and Prague.

THISTLE, this season, will have four players in their first team who served in South Vietnam: Ricky Murray, Glen Daly, Jim Chisholm and Neil Innes.

ERIC SCHWARZ, the former Prague, Yugal and Lake Macquarie forward, is tipped to rejoin Yugal, the club he served so well a few years ago. Schwarz, 29, still has plenty of good football left and could team up well with Joe Alagich in Yugal's forward-line.

Polonia have given KEN ADAMSON a free transfer. The useful utility player is free to join any club.

KEVIN D'ARCY may soon be compelled to resign as secretary of the First Division Council. The chairman of the NSW Promotions Committee

may soon accept a top executive position with a leading firm which may force him to drastically curtail his soccer activities.

The mother of St. George coach, LAURIE HEGYES, 5-3 last weekend in a TRIAL match. The Eagles will meet Sutherland at Seymour Shaw Park, Miranda, next Sunday.

FRANK MCCOLGAN, the CLARKE and JAMISON, re-signed by the start of the competition.

Melita Eagles beat Manly 5-3 last weekend in a TRIAL match. The Eagles will meet Sutherland at Seymour Shaw Park, Miranda, next Sunday.

CLARKE and JAMISON, re-signed by the start of the competition.

R. Grey, president, T. Petersen, senior vice-president and J. Fell, junior vice-president, were unopposed at the CANTERBURY and District Association's Annual General Meeting a fortnight ago. The Management Committee comprises of G. Schomberg, R. Shelston, J. Coates, A. Eagles, J. Greenhill, A. Harvey, J. Croft, N. Erickson and Mrs Y. Hawkins, the latter the first woman ever to be elected in such a capacity. Mrs Hawkins is a qualified coach, team manager and a member of the Punchbowl club.

"STEPPER", the popular Wentworth Park groundsman, is a regular spectator at the Showground on Friday nights. During the Ampol Cup he supports Hakoah, Pan Hellenic, St. George-Budapest and Croatia — the clubs that train at Wentworth Park.

Advertisements are accepted until March 10 in the 1968 SOCCER WORLD ANNUAL. For details please ring 55-6877 Monday to Wednesday, 54-3518 on other days.

EASTSIDE-MTK, the First Division Inter-Suburban club, train at the outer ground of Wentworth Park every Thursday night 7 to 9 p.m. Last week's matches against Chelsea resulted in a 7-2 win for the firsts and a 3-0 win for the reserves.

Canterbury did not take kindly to the Management Committee's reduction on the \$5,000 transfer fee they had placed on JIM SAMBROOK. The MC last week reduced the fee to \$2,000. Canterbury have appealed. Club secretary, Andrew Vass, declined to comment, but Norm Martin said the decision had rocked the club which felt he was worth every cent of his original transfer fee.

Second Division sides Western Suburbs and Bankstown will play a FRIENDLY MATCH at Neild Park, Five Dock, next Sunday, March 3.

In TRIAL games last weekend North Sydney Inter beat Hornsby-North End 1-0, Enmore defeated Bellambi (South Coast) 3-1 and Marrickville defeated a team of sailors from the visiting English HMS Devonshire 2-0.



Miss Marija Mesar being awarded the title of "Miss Yugal" by Yugoslav tennis professional, Nikola Pilic. Miss Mesar raised over \$1,000 to beat the four other candidates in the contest sponsored by Yugal during November, December and January. Miss Mesar won herself a week's holiday at Surfers Paradise.

The ST. GEORGE-BUDAPEST Club, 84 Victoria Avenue, Mortdale, will screen "Road to Success", a film on England's World Cup preparation and triumph, and the 1953 Hungary v. England match at Wembley tonight, Thursday, February 29, starting at 8 p.m. On Thursday, March 14, a film featuring Benfica and the Inter Milan v. Celtic 1967 European Cup final will be shown. As from March 14, members must book seats for the film nights.

A few of the Prague players' wives have joined the club's newly-formed LADIES' soccer team. The grapevine tells us that Mesdames Povey, Moulson and Hoggart, in particular, are following in the footsteps of their husbands...

Canterbury are very anxious for HERBERT NINAUS to resume training. Ninaus hasn't turned up for training since playing against Manly because of domestic reasons. Club official, Norm Martin, said this week his team needed Ninaus, whom they still rate as one of Sydney's top forwards, to bolster their forward-line.

NORTH SYDNEY INTER won their friendly game against HORNSBY last Sunday 1-0.

A young reserve forward of London's CRYSTAL PALACE is likely to soon join either St. George or Croatia.

Polonia have suspended talented forward, RICHARD KRAWIARZ, for breach of discipline. He is very uncertain for Polonia's match against Hakoah this weekend.

APIA coach MIKE MAZ-ZINA is due back from Argentina within 10 days — probably bringing at least two new players with him.

Full complement of clubs in this year's INTER-SUB-URBAN Third and Fourth Divisions is: Third Division: Blacktown, Spurs, Fairfield USC-Kiev, Condell Park, Dee Why, Gladesville-Hornsby, Granville All Stars, Greenacre, Revesby Workers, Rovers (Loftus Park), Smithfield Hotspurs, West Ryde Rovers, Willoughby. Fourth Division: Ku-ring-gai United, Newtown Progressive, Maroubra United, Padstow Park, Campbelltown, Central United, Liverpool Eagles, Prospect Wanderers, Chelsea, Beverley Hills.

Canterbury's hard-hitting, versatile BOB HARDIE, has renewed his contract for 1968. Canterbury also hope to have promising young forwards,

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## Papuans play Sat. in Sydney

Few changes are expected in the Papua-New Guinea and Combined Second Division teams at Redfern Oval tonight (Wednesday).

Matthew Raka, who scored a goal for the visitors last Saturday, will be replaced by the only European in the touring side, H. Martinaze, because he sustained a foot injury at Corrimall.

The local XI combined so well in the first match that no changes are expected Wednesday.

However, on Saturday, when the teams clash for the third time at Arlington Oval (3 p.m.), selector-coach Joe Marston may make changes to give most of his squad a run against the colorful visitors.

The Papua-New Guinea side should give a much improved display in their last two games now that they've somewhat settled down.

So how about turning up in appreciable numbers at Arlington. The visitors are sure to please with their all-action, imaginative football.

— C. Spiteri.

# SAINTS CAN FACE FUTURE WITH HOPE

— By PAUL DEAN —

Will the Saints go marching on this year — or will they suffer a decline following one of their most successful seasons?

Last year they did very well by winning the Ampol Cup, finishing second in the premiership and then winning the Grand Final.

From their team of 1967, only two will be missing: Isaac, who returned to Argentina and McColgan who is likely to go back to Scotland.

Stegbauer will be here soon to rejoin his team — whether at fullback or on the wing, is up to coach Hegyes to decide.

They have also acquired new players: young goalkeeper Hopkins from Auburn and the two veteran ex-Budapest stars, Galambos and Schauman who have returned to the fold.

Actually, player-wise, the Saints won't be worse off than last year.

Haffey and Hopkins in goal may alternate with the future belonging to young Hopkins; Haffey is likely to return to Scotland at the end of the year anyway.

For the fullback positions they have Sandell — successfully switched from the forward line — Taylor, Morgan, Hillary and perhaps Stegbauer.

The wing half pair of Schaefer-Zuckerman, when in form, should pose no problems — but should one of them drop out through injury, the Saints could be

in trouble as there is no suitable replacement for them.

The forward quintet of Galambos, Cliss, Warren, Fernandez and Schauman reads like a soccer who's who — full of talent, bulging with potential goals.



Coach Laurie Hegyes

But will it click? Five good forwards not always make a good line and too many "stars" could also be dangerous.

Only Warren and to some extent a reformed Fernandez are willing to take on a full work-load for the 90 minutes while the others are inclined to play in spasms.

This is a luxury no team can afford — and therein lies the biggest danger for the Saints.

If Schauman, Cliss and Galambos blend into the quintet and all pull their weight, this forward line could be the best in Sydney.

But if some decide to assume star attitudes, waiting for the others to lay on the chances, disappointment could be the result.

In McCue, Piggott and Burton the Saints have three very talented young

forwards and all may get their chance during the year.

Structurally the club is very strong indeed; possibly the strongest in Sydney.

With a prospering social club right behind them, St. George-Budapest no longer rely on the periodical "donations" of members to keep going.

Intelligently used, this healthy economical background should ensure them success for years to come.

## National team plan—a myth?

Everybody connected with the Australian national team is pumping for a systematic, thorough method of preparation in future.

However, the emphasis seems to be on the word "future." Almost three months have passed since the team has returned from Asia and nothing has happened to indicate that we may yet switch from the haphazard to the methodical.

Nothing, that is, except for a number of reports submitted to the ASF by officials who were on tour.

It's interesting to see what their reports say.

They all seem to agree on the need for building up a strong national team.

Here are some excerpts: John Barclay, tour co-manager:

"It is suggested that the system of selection and training be continued immediately . . .

"It is further recommended that the national squad assemble at least once every two months for a period of three days of training under the national coach . . ."

Jim Connell, tour co-manager:

"I recommend that the selection panel, in co-operation with coach Joe Vlasits, should analyse the national squad with the experience of the tour behind them and recommend that 22 players form a training squad."

### Regular training

"The Asian tour squad contained the basis of a very good team and we should build on this nucleus immediately with a view to World Cup participation."

"The national squad should be brought together for short periods (i.e. three days) at regular intervals and matches planned to enable the squad to blend as a team . . ."

"Not only must the squad train regularly, it must play regularly."

Joe Vlasits, coach:

"Plans (for future tours) should be laid at least one year in advance and the squad should come together at least every six weeks for three full days training, Mondays to Wednesdays."

"Coaching camps should be held twice yearly."

Amen, you could say. The reports are good, intelligent and constructive, the recommendations all worthwhile.

But here we are at the start of March with international commitments coming up left and right — and nothing is happening.

Actually, the sad truth is that their reports are neither new nor unusual.

We saw similar reports submitted after the 1965 Asian tour and others, from time to time.

But the only purpose they seem to have served was to further fill the cabinets of the ASF office.

Will the ASF act this time or have all these brave words been wasted once again?

—P.D.

## ...OR SO THEY SAY

"The East German national team is interested to tour Australia. The fastest improving soccer nation in Europe, East Germany would be an ideal 'sparring partner' for Australia before our World Cup elimination ties."

(Soccer World, Feb. 16).

"East Germany's national soccer team is interested in making a tour of Australia. An approach has come from the Deutscher Fussballverband which stands for the German Democratic Republic's Soccer Association. East Germany is regarded as the most improved soccer nation in Europe. Matches against East Germany would be an ideal way for Australia's national team to prepare for the coming World Cup qualifying matches."

(T. Smith, The Australian, Feb. 21).

"Whatever happens, Australia must be represented at the 1968 Merdeka Tournament, and by the best side possible."

(Sun, Feb. 20).

"Darcy, an Irishman, has been associated with many clubs in Australia and has been the liaison officer to many touring overseas teams."

(John Nowak, Mirror, Feb. 20).

"It is generally agreed that Sir William has been a first-class president, and any attempts to ease him out must be prompted by a regrettable resurgence of interstate rivalry."

(Sun, Feb. 22).

"South Sydney Croatia and Melita Eagles Newtown are both exasperating. If either one of them really clicks at the Showground tonight they could win by a margin which would give a computer a headache."

(Hotspur, Mirror, Feb. 23).

"Before last season's Grand Final, I warned APIA about old father time catching up on their players. At Wentworth Park last weekend APIA fielded six or seven players who could be called 'thirtyish,' so it seems the warning went unheeded."

(Sun, Feb. 23).

"Soccer's first five-figure attendance of the season is expected at Wentworth Park on Sunday for the battle of the giants . . . Pan Hellenic and Hakoah."

(D. Jack, Sun, Feb. 23).

"What a waste of a nice night — 80 minutes spent watching cws. of blubber blundering, mostly blindly, about Brookie Oval. That's what our charmer Sid Barnes had to say after watching the opening game of the 1968 Rugby League pre-season last night."

(Sun, Feb. 23).

"As far as it is in my power I can assure you, no matter what the problems, we will have a top European club side out here and a national side as well."

(Sir William Walkley, in the Mirror, Feb. 23).

"Pan Hellenic and Hakoah will meet in one of the most crucial matches of the Ampol Cup at Wentworth Park this afternoon. The early match today is between St. George-Budapest and Hakoah Eastern Suburbs."

(Sun-Herald, Feb. 25).

# JAROS MAY YET CROSS BRIDGE—TO NTH SYDNEY

— By ALAN SPEERS —

Karl Jaros, whose name is synonymous with the glamor Prague side of the late 1950's and early 60's, may soon don his playing boots again — but in company less exalted than in his years of "glory."

Jaros' reappearance is likely to be with Second Division club, North Sydney Inter.

But, and it's a big but, Inter will first have to meet the reduced transfer fee placed on Jaros by Melita Eagles, to whom he is still legally tied.

Melita president, Vince Pisani, said this week the fee was "very reasonable", though previously it had been set at \$2,000.

"All that North Sydney Inter, or any other club interested in Jaros, have to do is to meet the fee, and he's theirs," Pisani said.

Jaros, now 36, has not played for about a year. His last appearance was for Melita in an Ampol Cup tie against Cumberland in 1967.

The reasons for his walk-out are varied, depending on which version you place most credence in.

Jaros said this week: "I refused to play for Melita again when they failed to pay me even a penny for any of the five Ampol Cup matches I played in."

"I was coaching the team, and had been told I would receive payment for this, as well as the usual players' percentage."

"I got nothing, so I walked out."

Pisani denies Jaros' story.

"We were paying Jaros \$40 a week for coaching the team, and he received the same percentage of the gate money as other players in the team," he said.

"When he walked out on the club, before the match against Hakoah, we presented a copy of his contract with Melita to a special committee of the Federation."

"The committee sided with us," he said.

Pisani added that the original transfer fee of \$2,000 set by the club was "reasonable, taking into account the money we paid APIA for Jaros, plus another expense we had to agree to when he signed with us."

"However, we have written to the Federation stating our willingness to let Jaros go, either to coach or to play."

"The amount we want from any club interested is very reasonable," he stressed.

Jaros, meanwhile, is working as a storeman with Qantas, who, if they ever want to form a works football team, have some ready-made talent available.

Also working with the same airline is Leo Baumgartner, Jaros' former Prague team mate.

Jaros, though he hasn't played for about 12 months, has kept in trim running two or three nights a week on Bondi Beach.

"I feel that, at 36, I still have something to offer soccer, even if only as a coach."

"There are kids playing locally who have any amount of talent, but they're being coached by people such as their fathers, some of whom have never kicked a soccer ball."

"What chance have they of learning to do things properly?"

"Quite honestly, I think I would rather coach than play again."

"There's no fun in playing alongside players who can't pass the ball from three yards."

"The crowd laughs not at them, but at you, simply because you were once a 'name'."

"But, if North Sydney Inter want me on a player-coach basis, I'm more than willing to take the field again."

"You don't just turn your back on something that's been your life."



Karl Jaros in his heyday, wearing Prague's colors.

Aiming for  
business?





# WORLD — CLASS GOALS END RECORD OF HELLENIC

Last week's Ampol Cup round-robin matches produced no startling results though Yugal's 2-2 draw with St. George and Canterbury's narrow 2-3 defeat against APIA could be qualified as mild surprises — both predicted by us.

APIA consolidated their top position in Group "A", but they've played one match more than Croatia, Prague and Canterbury, the other semifinal contenders. The same position occurs in the other group where Pan Hellenic still retain the

lead despite last Sunday's 0-2 loss to Hakoah.

Hakoah and St. George, however, have played one game less, making Hakoah the virtual group leader and only unbeaten team in the series.

Last weekend's reports:

*Last Friday:*

## APIA narrowly

Last Friday night's double-header ended sensationally with Canterbury again providing the excitement when they scored two quick goals in the last four minutes of their match against APIA.

APIA's superiority, however, was never in doubt, but the small crowd was grateful to the Berries for providing just about the only thrilling minutes of an otherwise rather dull evening.

In the early match, Croatia kept their semi-final hopes alive with a predictable one-goal win over the unproductive Melita Eagles.

**Croatia v.**

**Melita Eagles 1-0**

Despite their defeat, Melita Eagles played better, but their forwards again squandered many gilt-edged chances.

They were even unable to convert a penalty when Corry, back at his brilliant best, saved Cilia's spot-kick in the first half.

But Croatia's win, however narrow, was not usurped.

Considering they fielded four teenagers in their attack, they did remarkably well to hold out as they did.

Even more surprising and encouraging was the fact that their inexperienced forward-line, expertly marshalled by playmaker Giles, produced many dangerous moves, especially from fast, incisive breakaways.

Croatia's defence, however, played as usual the bigger part in victory.

Corry, Lincoln, Shepherd, Sloan, Curry and Wright, who showed up better in his second Sydney appearance, had their hands full against a much more enterprising Melita attack.

Melita Eagles were unlucky last Friday.

Apart from missing the penalty, two "certain" goals were foiled by the woodwork.

Melita should have led at halftime because their forwards got on top almost immediately after young Brian had put Croatia in the lead in the fifth minute. Lack of a crack goalscorer was evident in both teams, whose forward moves were cleverly, at times brilliantly, mounted, but always fell down within scoring range.

The lack of punch in both forward-lines didn't make for much excitement as most of the play centred midfield.

The second half, in particular, was colorless, Melita having spent their attacking energies in the first 35 minutes, and Croatia content to hang on to their slim, but ever so vital, lead.

The best players: Corry, Shepherd, Curry, Giles, Frakes, Sloan and Brian for the winners, in that order, and Eaton, De Bruin, Cilia, Hewlett and young Quesada for Melita.

New Zealand international, Nemet, after a

promising first 20 minutes, faded badly and little was seen of him.

Croatia: Corry; Lincoln, Sloan, Curry, Shepherd, Wright, J. Yaager, Barbouris, Brian, Giles, Frakes.

Melita Eagles: Eaton; Hunter, De Bruin, Cilia, Falzon, Hewlett, Nemet, Goldie, Azzopardi, Smith, Quesada.

Scorer: Brian 5 min.

Referee: J. Henkelman.

— Lou Gautier

**APIA v.**

**Canterbury 3-2**

The final score doesn't tell the story of a match APIA dominated for long periods.

APIA, in the first half, displayed by far their best form this season.

Despite the absence of Campana, their forwards created some scintillating moves which would have netted more goals had it not been for some inspired goalkeeping by the spectacular Demopoulos.

Demopoulos, despite a costly mistake on APIA's first goal, was the hero of the match and certainly prevented APIA from scoring the overwhelming win their brilliant play in attack deserved.

Apart from a couple of dangerous thrusts by Gerry Hood, Canterbury were on the defensive for the entire first half.

Down 0-2 at the interval, the Berries came out fighting in typical style in the second half.

Though they trailed 0-3 after 57 minutes, they had much more of the ball in attack after the resumption and it was now Taylor's turn to show his ability between the APIA sticks.

The former Canterbury goalie was called on to perform a couple of break-neck dives at the feet of the Canterbury forwards who spreadeagled the APIA defence, which appeared to tire in the second half.

Relying on fast breakaways launched by midfield men Galbraith, again excellent, and Romanos, Canterbury deserved what everybody thought would be merely a consolation goal in the 66th minute.

But the Berries rocked the Showground crowd with a second goal just on the final whistle, transforming what could have been an

overwhelming loss into a most respectable defeat.

APIA almost paid the penalty for relaxing foolishly in the dying stages, but APIA, on last Friday's display can face the future with more confidence.

They confirmed the improvement shown in the second half against Manly, and must now rate as a strong possibility to take out the Ampol Cup.

Keddie, who easily played his best match since joining APIA, Taylor, Ackersley, truly in rare form at this early stage of the season, Bottalico and Blue were APIA's most useful players.

In Canterbury, who could teach most teams a thing or two in converting desperate defence into attack

and scoring goals, goalie Demopoulos was way out in front, but Galbraith, Whitehead, Romanos, Hardy and Hood also excelled.

APIA: Taylor; Nuttall, Ackersley; Hughes, Van Blerk, Bottalico; Keddie, Campbell, Blue, Giacometti, McKinnon.

Canterbury: Demopoulos; Dougan, Gordon; Galbraith, Whitehead, Romanos, Como, Kauz, Hardy, Hood, Paxinos.

Scorers: Giacometti 20 min., Keddie 30 min., McKinnon 57 min. for APIA; Hardy 66 min. and Como 69 min. for Canterbury.

Referee: H. Parsons.

Crowd: 2,382 (double-header).

— Lou Gautier

*Last Sunday:*

## Sinning Saints

In near heatwave conditions, the struggling St. George had to be well content with a draw against Yugal.

One of the most hotly disputed penalties in recent years enabled them to draw what, for long periods, looked like a losing proposition.

In the late game, Hakoah outwitted Pan Hellenic to win; letting their opponents run to their heart's desire, Hakoah gained ascendancy as the match progressed.

The season's biggest crowd — 6,330 — watched the double-header.

**Yugal v.**

**St. George 2-2**

Cup holders St. George lived to fight another day against under-rated Yugal — thanks to a questionable penalty.

Still searching for their old cohesion and poise, Saints made desperately hard work of holding an opponent with only one dangerous forward, Alagich.

Now faced with the task of defeating both South Coast and Pan Hellenic to qualify for the semifinals, St. George will have to improve considerably if they are to retain the trophy.

Yugal, however, have little reason to grumble at their ill-luck.

Had they accepted the chances which presented themselves in the first 15 minutes, with the Saints' defence reeling, it would have taken more than a penalty to allow the latter back into the game.

Chief squanderer of chances was Yugal's tall centre-half cum-forward, Halpin. He must still be wondering how he contrived to shoot straight into Haffey's hands in the 10th minute; a source of wonder to Haffey, too, no doubt.

Having squirmed off the hook, Saints, for a time, played soccer which, if not up to their old standard, was good enough to equalise.

After a goalmouth scramble, in which goodness knows how many Yugal legs flailed wildly at the ball, Galambos squeezed it into the net.

Alagich's second goal, catching Haffey moving in about three different directions, seemed enough to give Yugal the major end of the spoils.

Then, as the song goes, along came Buchanan (not Joe!).

Overall, Saints' officials must still be concerned at the team's form, but there was one very heartening feature.

Fernandez, apparently keener than for many moons, set an example to his team mates with a non-stop display of fetching and carrying.

In the Yugal side, Alagich was undoubtedly the star. His first goal, when he outpaced the entire St. George defence, was a magnificent effort.

Others to shine were the still vastly under-rated Rafanelli and Stosich, who had a sterling duel in midfield with Schaefer and Zuckerman.

St. George: Haffey; Taylor, Hillary, Schaefer, Morgan, Zuckerman, Galambos, Cliss, Warren, Fernandez, Schaubman.

Yugal: Ljubic; Nacinovic, Crnic, Stosich, Banicevic, Rafanelli, Alagich, Bobic, Halpin, Edwards, Pacanin.

Scorers: Alagich 2 and 47 min. for Yugal; Galambos 23, Zuckerman (pen.) 60 for St. George.

Referee: M. Buchanan.

— Alan Speers

**Hakoah v.**

**Pan Hellenic 2-0**

Two individually inspired and executed goals were the only tangible difference between these teams.

One was the result of a remarkable solo dash by Edmunds, cutting in and out till he was in the gaping goalmouth from where he aptly crowned his movement with a fine goal.

The second was the work of Baartz — otherwise quiet all afternoon — who, with enviable agility, lifted the ball over the heads of two onrushing defenders before whacking it in from an acute angle.

Pan Hellenic were desperately unlucky not to score on quite a few occasions; when the erratic forwards were right on target, they were frustrated by a brilliant Fuzes, gradually re-emerging as Sydney's top custodian.

Pan Hellenic might have committed the blunder of dashing around too much in the first half, chasing every half chance — and eventually tiring themselves to the bone.

The Hakoah defence looked impregnable, all turning in excellent displays.

However, even among these it was easy to pick out the brilliant Marnoch, standing his ground as an extremely fast, agile and mobile rock.

The Hakoah forwards, apart from their few individual efforts, disappointed.

Barnett and Jones hardly put a foot right and one had the inescapable feeling that this quintet badly missed the thoughtful, scheming Atoua, away ill.

It is possible that without these fine solo goals, Pan Hellenic would have been able to turn the tables, as they attacked more, had a bigger share of the ball and

### AMPOL TABLES

#### GROUP "A"

APIA	4	3	—	1	8	4	44
Prague	3	2	—	1	5	2	29
Croatia	3	2	—	1	4	3	28
Canterbury	3	1	1	1	7	7	24
Melita E.	4	1	—	3	3	7	15
Manly	3	—	1	2	3	8	8

#### GROUP "B"

P. Hellenic	4	3	—	1	9	2	45
Hakoah	3	3	—	—	7	1	43
Yugal	4	1	2	1	4	6	26
St. George	3	1	1	1	5	4	23
Polonia	3	—	1	2	—	6	5
SCU	3	—	—	3	—	6	0

in the forward line even showed more cohesion than Hakoah.

Hakoah: Fuzes; Stewart, Hillsdon; Gardiner, Marnoch, Yaager, Edmunds, Fekete, Barnett, Baartz, Jones.

Pan Hellenic: Clarke; Johnston, Hignett; Westwater, Mallard, Omeros; Smith, Karyannis (Byles), McCulloch, Laraman, Blitz.

Scorers: Edmunds 28 min., Baartz 33 min.

Referee: K. Lockrey.

Crowd: 6,330 (double-header).

— Paul Dean

## RESULTS TABLES

GROUP	APIA	Canterbury	Croatia	Manly	Prague	Melita Eagles
"A"						
APIA	●	3-2		2-0	1-2	2-0
Canterbury	2-3	●	3-2	2-2		
Croatia		2-3	●		1-0	1-0
Manly	0-2	2-2		●		1-3
Prague	2-1		0-1		●	3-0
Melita Eagles	0-2		0-1	3-1	0-3	●

GROUP	Hakoah	Pan Hellenic	Polonia	St. George	South Coast	Yugal
"B"						
Hakoah	●	2-0		3-1	2-0	
Pan Hellenic	0-2	●	3-0		2-0	4-0
Polonia		0-3	●	0-3		0-0
St. George-B'pest	1-3		3-0	●		2-2
South Coast	0-2	0-2			●	0-2
Yugal		0-4	0-0	2-2	2-0	●

### SYDNEY PROGRAM

## THIS WEEKEND

#### AMPOL CUP

**Friday, March 1**

South Coast v. St. George — Showground, 7.30 p.m.  
Hakoah v. Polonia — Showground, 8.55 p.m.

**Sunday, March 3**

Canterbury v. Prague — Wentworth Park, 2.15 p.m.  
Manly v. Croatia — Wentworth Park, 3.35 p.m.

## NEXT WEEKEND

#### AMPOL CUP

**Friday, March 8**

Manly v. Prague — Showground, 7.30 p.m.  
APIA v. Croatia — Showground, 8.55 p.m.

**Saturday, March 9**

Canterbury v. Melita Eagles — Wentworth Park, 2.15 p.m.  
Hakoah v. Yugal — Wentworth Park, 3.35 p.m.

**Sunday, March 10**

South Coast v. Polonia — Wentworth Park, 2.15 p.m.  
Pan Hellenic v. St. George — Wentworth Park, 3.35 p.m.



# DEFEAT MAY BE COSTLY FOR PRAGUE OR CROATIA

— By LOU GAUTIER —

All four matches on the Ampol Cup program this weekend will have a vital bearing on the semifinal prospects of the competing teams.

The fight in both groups for the semifinal places is still fairly open.

In Group A the current leaders, APIA may still miss out — if they lose to Croatia and if Prague win their remaining two ties against Canterbury and Manly.

Even Canterbury's position is not yet hopeless — provided they beat Prague and Melita in which case they can accompany either APIA or Croatia into the semis.

In Group B Hakoah are in the box seat with two games to play — both of which they should win.

The decider could be the Pan Hellenic v. St. George tie — provided the Saints take the South Coast hurdle on Friday night.

Yugal's position is rather hopeless; in order to qualify they would have to beat Hakoah 4-0, hope that Polonia also beat Hakoah to nil and that Pan Hellenic defeat St. George comfortably.

Our previews:

## St. George v. South Coast

Saints' form has been such this season that they can't even be certain of defeating South Coast on Friday evening.

But win they must if they are to stay in the race for the semifinals.

South Coast, of course, have nothing at stake: they lost three straight matches and still haven't scored a goal.

If Jim Kelly was at Wentworth Park last Sunday he would have had good reason to feel confident that United's goal drought might end this week.

St. George's defence was abnormally shaky against Yugal, and was torn to shreds on many occasions through the sheer speed of Alagich, and, to a lesser extent, Edwards.

South Coast's only redeeming feature at this stage in attack being the speed of their young forwards, it seems likely that the provincials may at long last notch their first point of the series.

Not that we think Saints will lose, but South Coast should be able to put at least one at the back of Haffey's net.

Fernandez, now at the peak of his form, is the one man on whose shoulders Saints' hopes rest.

Though Galambos and Schauman showed slight improvement against Yugal, they still have a long way to go before they justify their much-debated transfers.

With Warren and Cliss obviously out of condition, and the defence, without a single exception, completely out of touch, Saints will have to fight hard for victory, but should win narrowly.

## Hakoah v. Polonia

Polonia, also chasing their first goal of the season, come up against Sydney's most formidable defence.

Their prospects of scoring a goal, let alone winning, are remote.

It would take a startling reversal of form for Hakoah not to win comfortably, with a couple of goals to spare, if not more.

Hakoah, mind you, were not all that impressive last week when their attack let them down against Pan Hellenic.

Barnett's total breakdown — he messed up every ball — and the mediocrity of winger Jones disrupted the entire forward-line, which had to rely on two world-class individual efforts to finish in front.

Hakoah's defence, however, was as faultless as ever, with Marnoch again earning unanimous praise for his imperial display at centre-half.

Australia's best stopper, supported by an exceptionally balanced defence, without the slightest weakness, shouldn't find Polonia's timid forward-line hard to subdue.

Unbelievable as it may sound, Polonia never looked like scoring in any of their three matches to date.

Their defence, except in George, has been sound, but the first game against St. the forward-line urgently requires fresh, young talent.

How Polonia could do with a Ray Baartz!

This same Baartz who will be their greatest threat on Friday if his consistent goal-scoring is any indication.

After the tenacious, hard-tackling of the Pan Hellenic defence, Hakoah should relish the much slower pace of Polonia and win comfortably.

## Canterbury v. Prague

A real Cup-tie in perspective here as defeat would kill the semifinal chances of the loser.

Canterbury, the surprise team of the series, will take the field without the slightest complex though most people will again rate them as the underdogs.

This tag apparently suits them fine because so far they have shown scant regard for the reputation of their opponents as Croatia found out, and APIA nearly did last week.

Canterbury's team is ideally suited for cup football where the slightest half-chance often means the difference between victory and defeat.

The Berries will adopt the same tactics which nearly paid off against APIA: a massed defence, alternating with attacking sorties by their halves, Galbraith and Romanos, and rapid breakaways by Hardy, Hood and the wingers.

Prague will have to be on their guard throughout the match.

They won't be able to leave their rearguard undefended, however crushing their territorial advantage.

But we doubt whether Venglos, an attentive observer at all cup matches, will allow this to happen.

He has Prague in tip-top shape, both physically and tactically.

Prague's main task will be to keep Gerry Hood under close surveillance, even if it means that one player does little else.

Prague's faultless defensive display against Melita Eagles two weeks ago suggests they should be equal to the task of securing a firm grip in the midfield.

In attack the scoring ability of Englishman Thorne and Manuel, the finesse of Gauto and Hoggart and Scheinflug's defence-splitting passes should carry the day though Canterbury can be expected to fight till the final whistle as always.

## Manly v. Croatia

The youngest forward-lines in Sydney will make this match a true festival of youth.

Of the 10 forwards on view, only one — Ron Giles — is an experienced player with an established record.

The others are very young prospects, some of whom already showing above average potential.

Croatia's bold youth policy in attack has paid off so far, and everything points to another Croatia victory on Sunday afternoon.

Their defence, one of the best in the business, should be untroubled to hold the Manly attack, and their forward-line also have an edge on their opponents because in Giles they have the play-maker Manly sadly lack.

In Yaager, Barboutis, Frakes and Brian, Croatia have exciting prospects who have performed creditably all through the series to date.

In contrast to Manly's forwards, Croatia's young attackers are not afraid to try their luck at goal and will shoot whenever possible.

Shooting is Manly's biggest failing: their forwards appear to lose all confidence once they're in a scoring position.

Against Croatia's disciplined, highly organised defence, they may, however, be hard pressed to get even close to Corry's goal, let alone score.

It's on the cards that Croatia will notch their third 1-0 win, but this time they could score more if Manly again run out of steam in the last 25 minutes.



Yugal's Ljubic in action last week.

## PROBABLE TEAMS

### SOUTH COAST v. ST GEORGE

RAMAGE	1	HAFFEY
RINGLAND	2	SANDELL
AKERS	3	HILLARY
KELLY	4	SCHAEFER
CARR	5	MORGAN
DAVIES	6	ZUCKERMAN
BEATTIE	7	GALAMBOS
ALSTON	8	CLISS
MULQUEENEY	9	WARREN
FREEME	10	FERNANDEZ
PATERSON	11	SCHAUMAN
Referee:	N. JONES.	

### HAKOAH v. POLONIA

FUZES	1	DREWNIAK
STEWART	2	ADDISON
HILLSDON	3	SKIBA
GARDINER	4	FILOK
MARNOCH	5	DZIALACH
YAAGER	6	KULAK
EDMUNDS	7	OLIVER
KEDDIE	8	MINOL
BARNETT	9	BAKER
BAARTZ	10	KOMODER
FEKETE	11	URBANIAC
Referee:	A. BOSKOVIC.	

### CANTERBURY v. PRAGUE

DEMOPOULOS	1	KING
DOUGAN	2	HARCOMBE
GORDON	3	MOULSON
GALBRAITH	4	BLACKER
WHITEHEAD	5	ROOTSEY
ROMANOS	6	BLANCO
COMO	7	GAUTO
KAUZ	8	MANUEL
HARDY	9	SCHEIFLUG
HOOD	10	THORNE
PAXINOS	11	HOGGART
Referee:	A.R. BROWN.	

### MANLY v. CROATIA

TUINMAN	1	CORRY
MCGRATH	2	LINCOLN
BROOKS	3	SLOAN
VERRILLS	4	CURRY
CAMPBELL	5	SHEPHERD
FREEMAN	6	WRIGHT
HUGHES	7	J. YAAGER
HARRIS	8	BARBOUTIS
G. JONES	9	BRIAN
JAGGER	10	GILES
WALLER	11	FRAKES
Referee:	G. NAYLOR.	

## AMPOL CROWDS MAY BE TAKEN AS BAD OMENS

The downward trend in Ampol Cup attendances, far from being arrested, is even more marked this year.

The average crowd per Ampol Cup double-header so far this season is only 3,600, compared with 3,950 last year and 4,450 in 1966.

The shocking pre-competition attendances point to another very lean premiership, spectator-wise.

In the past, Ampol Cup crowds have always been an accurate pointer for subsequent premiership attendance figures.

Unless the pattern is dramatically reversed, we can brace ourselves for yet another substantial decrease in spectators during the competition.

The Ampol Cup crowds are so poor this season, that Sydney even trails Adelaide in drawing power at this stage.

The average per double-header in the Adelaide Ampol Cup this season stands at 3,700.

Melbourne is way out in front with 7,500 spectators as their pre-competition average so far.

Even Western Australia is almost drawing as many people to their cup matches as Sydney.

The reasons for Sydney's pathetic Ampol Cup crowds, has us puzzled.

They must be varied, but are probably far too complex for anyone to pinpoint accurately.

One reason, often put forward, which we cannot accept, is the hot weather which is said to drive prospective spectators to the beaches.

Half the matches are played at night, in relative coolness, yet the night attendances are much smaller than Sunday's games at Wentworth Park.

### SUNDAY DROP

As for Sunday crowds, they are down some 20 per cent on 1966 figures, when Ampol Cup fixtures were played for the first time on Sundays.

Two years ago the weather was just as warm and sticky, yet the average Sunday attendance in 1966 was just over 5,500 spectators as against only 4,300 this year.

The round-robin system now used in the series has also been blamed for declining attendances.

Some point out that Ampol Cup attendances started to drop when the straight elimination process in use from 1957 to 1965 was abandoned.

We can't go along with this contention though the current method does take away a lot of the excitement and cut-throat tension associated with the pre-

season competition in the past.

The round-robin, if anything, should draw much larger crowds as fans have the opportunity of watching their team at least five times.

The average attendance, spread over the entire series, should in any case be much higher than when the Ampol Cup was conducted on a straight elimination.

This, unfortunately, has not been the case.

Quite the contrary: the series have lost support steadily since the boom years of 1960-64.

Once a great money-spinner, the series now hardly bring in any revenue to the clubs, and the only ones which can possibly expect even to break even are the two finalists.

However, we agree that the Showground keeps people away and it is evident that spectators just won't turn up in the vast arena unless there is a crowd-pulling international.

The Federation should start planning immediately for a more suitable venue for 1969.

Unless something drastic is done to infuse new blood into the series, the 1969 series may well be played before empty terraces.

— Lou Gautier

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## ROUND THE WORLD

### Cramer's Chinese decoration

FIFA coach, Dettmar Cramer, due in Australia this week, has been awarded a high distinction by the Nationalist Military Academy at Taipei. Cramer received the decoration for services rendered to Chinese youth during his one-month coaching visit to Formosa.

### No German tour

According to the French weekly, FRANCE FOOTBALL, the Australian Federation has asked the West German FA to arrange an Australian tour for Munchen 1860, Schalke 04 or Eintracht Frankfurt this winter. ASF secretary Ian McAndrew denied the report this week. A pity, because Munchen 1860 or Eintracht Frankfurt would have delighted Australian crowds. Both are in the top bracket of European clubs.

### Bernabeu wants cash

Don Bernabeu Santiago wants no gifts for his 25 years as Real Madrid president in September. "I want hard cash," he said. Bernabeu for the past four years has been raising funds for the construction of Europe's most modern swimming centre, at a stone's throw from the soccer stadium that bears his name.

### Arsenal plan new stadium

Arsenal are planning one of the world's most modern, comfortable football grounds. The Gunners want to build a 100,000 capacity stadium, with seating accommodation only. The ground would be situated at Wimbledon. Highbury would still be retained, as an alternate home venue. The project would cost an estimated \$10 million.

### "Tag the player" game

The Italian soccer weekly CALCIO ILLUSTRATO has priced the following world stars thus: Pele \$1,750,000, Eusebio \$1,400,000, Beckenbauer \$900,000, Bobby Charlton \$800,000, Best \$750,000, Johnstone \$700,000, Van Himst \$700,000, Asparukhov \$650,000, Yakimov \$450,000, Farkas \$350,000, Varga \$280,000, Edu \$250,000, Artime \$250,000, Spencer \$200,000, Marzolini \$200,000 and Rocha \$200,000. Hungary's Florian Albert and Spanish and Yugoslav stars were not mentioned in the list.

### Italian ban stays

The Italian FA's ban on foreign players will only be lifted on June 30, 1971, it was announced in Rome last week. The FA decided against an earlier date to compel clubs to utilise more young local players. The decision has upset the plans of the big clubs which were expecting the embargo to be lifted early next year. There are 32 foreign players operating in Italy, but all were signed before the ban was enforced. Clubs are only allowed to field two "imports" in local matches and three in internationals.



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England's 1-1 draw with Scotland in Glasgow last Saturday gave the world champions a berth in the quarterfinals of the European Championship. Their opponents will be Spain, holders of the title. Should England get through to the semifinals, and Italy eliminated, the semifinals and final will be played in England.

### European Cup odds

These are the odds offered by leading English bookmakers for the European Champions' Cup: Real Madrid, Manchester United 6-1, Benfica 8-1, Vasas, Juventus 10-1, Eintracht Braunschweig 20-1, Sparta Prague 33-1, Gornik 50-1. Cupwinners' Cup prices are: AC Milan 3-1, Bayern Munchen 5-1, Torpedo Moscow 6-1, Hamburger SV 8-1, Valencia 20-1, Lyon 25-1, Standard Liege 25-1 and Cardiff City 100-1.

● Vasas Budapest wound up their South American tour with a 3-1 win over World Club champions, Racing, at Buenos Aires.

● Gianni Rivera played his 200th First Division match a fortnight ago when his team, Milan AC, beat Mantova 1-0.

● If Italy stages the finals of the European Championship in June, the semifinals will be played in Naples and Florence, and the final in Rome.

● Cyprus scored a shock 2-1 win over Switzerland in their last preliminary European Championship tie at Nicosia. The result had no bearing whatsoever as Italy have already won the group.

● Hamburger SV beat Lyon (France) 2-0 in the first leg of the European Cupwinners' Cup quarterfinals at Hamburg.

● The French Army defeated their British counterparts 1-0 in London last week.

● Valencia were held to a 1-1 by Bayern Munchen at home in the first leg of their quarterfinal of the Fair Cities' Cup.

● Gornik Zabrze, the Polish champions, held Torpedo Moscow to a scoreless draw in Tbilisi. Their star forward, Wilczek, suffered a serious injury during the game and had to be hospitalised.

### Language war spreads

Belgium's bitter language war between the French-speaking Walloons and Dutch-speaking Flemish has spread to the soccer grounds. Riots have erupted in recent weeks at matches opposing teams from French-speaking Liege and Charleroi to Flemish opponents. The situation is so bad, especially regarding referees, who are accused of racial bias by both Walloons and Flemish, that the Belgian FA is seriously considering forcing every club to erect moats and wire fences around their pitches.

● Red Star Belgrade and Botafogo of Rio, Brazil, share the lead at the halfway mark of the six-team Mexico tournament.

● Israel defeated Switzerland 2-1 in Tel Aviv, then four days later lost 0-3 against Sweden.

● Universidad Catolica (Chile) beat Emelec (Ecuador) 2-1 in the South American Champions' Cup.

● MSV Duisburg, the West German Bundesliga club, will lose their Dutch forward, Van Haagen, next season. He has been offered \$28,000 to sign with Holland's Feyenoord.

● Vienna's traditional annual Easter tournament this year will feature Rapid, FK Austria, Eintracht Braunschweig and a still unnamed Hungarian club.

● Brazil won't play in France during their European tour in June. Their opponents will be West Germany in Frankfurt, Poland in Warsaw, Czechoslovakia in Prague, Yugoslavia at Belgrade and Portugal in Lisbon.

● Since the start of the season, FC Nurnberg's coach, Max Merkel, has been fined a total of \$380 for offensive behaviour from the sidelines during matches.

● Sekularac, the brilliant Yugoslav international forward, recently won \$2,500 in the Italian soccer pools.

### Amnesty for Dutch stars

Theo Laseroms and Co Prins, the two Dutch internationals who defected to the American Professional League last year, thus incurring a life suspension by the Dutch FA, have been pardoned as a result of the merger of the two US rival leagues. Both players will return to Holland next season. Laseroms will join Feyenoord and Prins will play for Second Division Blauw Wit.

### Yardley shoots for record

Former St. George-Budapest centre-forward, George Yardley, who has made such a hit with Tranmere Rovers, has a better chance than any other player in the game of smashing his club's existing scoring record before the season's end. The target he has to aim at: "Bunny" Bell's 35 Third Division North goals in 1933-34. Yardley should be well capable of overhauling that.

### Rappan may coach Benfica

The search for a successor to deposed Benfica coach, Fernando Riera, is arousing great speculation in Portugal. Top of the club's wanted list is Gornik Zabrze's Hungarian coach, Geza Kalocsai, with former Austrian international and long-serving national Swiss coach, Karl Rappan, currently manager of Lausanne Sports, flew into Lisbon recently for top level talks with the Benfica management. An announcement is expected this weekend.

### Asian Youth Championship

The tenth Asian Youth Tournament will be staged in Seoul, South Korea, in April. The following countries are taking part: Japan, Nationalist China, Malaysia, India, Thailand, Burma, South Korea, Hong Kong, Philippines, South Vietnam, Singapore, Israel and Indonesia.

### FA Cup draw

This is the draw for the fifth round of the English FA Cup: Everton v. Tranmere, Portsmouth v. Southampton, Arsenal v. Birmingham, Tottenham v. Liverpool, Rotherham v. Leicester, West Ham v. Sheffield United, Leeds v. Bristol or Middlesbrough, Sheffield Wednesday v. Chelsea. The round will be played on March 9.

## SCOREBOARD

**BELGIUM:** Bruges v. Be-los 1-0; Pierikos v. Panelfsi-  
veren Waas 1-0; Lierse v. naikos 1-1.

**ITALY:** Atalanta v. AS  
derlecht v. Beringen 2-0; Roma 2-1; Cagliari v. Man-  
Waregem v. Racing White tova 2-2; Fiorentina v. Bo-  
0-0; Beerschot v. FC Liege logna 1-0; Inter Milan v. Va-  
3-0; Standard Liege v. Anti-  
rese 1-0; Juventus v. Milan  
werp 0-0; SC Charleroi v. FC  
AC 1-2; Vicenza v. Napoli  
Malines 1-0; St. Trond v. 0-1; Sampdoria v. Brescia 1-0;  
Daring Brussels 3-2; Spal v. Torino 0-0.

**FRANCE:** St. Etienne v.  
Nice 3-1; Lens v. Rouen 2-1;  
v. Sporting Lisbon 0-3; Setu-  
Nantes v. Valenciennes 0-2;  
bal v. Benfica 2-0; CUF v.  
Bordeaux v. Red Star 1-0;  
Sedan v. Lyon 2-3; Metz v.  
ica 1-1; Leixoes v. Guimaraes  
Rennes 6-1; Monaco v. An-  
3-1; Belenenses v. Barreirense  
gers 5-0; Strasbourg v. Aix  
4-1; Tirsense v. Varzim 2-0.  
1-0; Sochaux v. Lille 2-1;  
Marseille v. Ajaccio 2-0.

**GREECE:** Panionios v.  
Español 0-1; Barcelona v.  
AEK 1-2; Panseraikos v.  
Sabadell 3-1; Malaga v. Atle-  
tico Madrid 0-1; Real Madrid  
Ethnikos 1-0; Apollon v. Aris  
v. Valencia 0-2; Pontevedra  
1-0; Vyzas v. Heraklis 0-0;  
v. Real Betis 1-1; Sevilla v.  
Prodeftiki v. Verria 0-0; Pan-  
Bilbao 2-3; Elche v. Cordoba  
athinaikos v. Olympiakos Vo-  
3-0.

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## Canberra needs ASF's help

The ACT Federation XI will play Queensland in Brisbane on March 10.

Faced with a drop in the standard of play and a downward trend in attendances, the Canberra clubs are hoping for a good showing in Brisbane to revive interest in the code.

The squad is being coached by the former JUST (Melbourne) coach, "Jim" Ecimovic, now with Croatia (ACT).

\* \* \*

With the Department of Interior's announcement that the ACT's top sporting centre — Manuka Oval — is to have covered accommodation for 500-odd spectators in the next few weeks, soccer officials are talking of an all out bid for a regular Canberra game for touring teams.

Despite a successful staging of its only international game — ACT v. Chelsea — local supporters have been bitterly disappointed that they have been overlooked since.

With a current population of over 110,000 and an expected 250,000 in the next 14 years, locals are looking to the ASF to assist in giving the code a lift similar to that it experienced in 1965 when Chelsea delighted 3,500 spectators in a last minute midweek fixture.

— John Holland

## Amazing SA swap

Seacliff-Austria and Birkalla have just completed one of the most amazing player exchange deals in the history of Australian soccer.

Austria have swapped four of their First Division players — Harry Jones, Bob McLuckie, Joe Artz and Tod Clarke — for 19-year-old Terry Wetton.

A member of the SA Youth team in 1964, Wetton is a promising link-man who has a playing style remarkably similar to that of Juventus star, John Perin. Wetton played his first game for Austria against Hellas last Friday night and was one of the best players afield.

The acquisition of Jones, McLuckie, Artz and Clarke, will boost Birkalla's chances of promotion to First Division next year.

Jones and McLuckie are former Birkalla players and Artz and Clarke are products of the strong Seacliff junior area.

Jones and McLuckie are experienced men but still have many more games to play before they can be classified as veterans.

Artz, still a schoolboy, was a member of the Adelaide High Schools team which defeated the Sydney High Schools side in Adelaide last year, and is a State schoolboy sprint champion.

Clarke was SA Youth team goalkeeper in the 1967 Australian Championship played in Sydney.

In addition to the four players exchanged for Wetton, Austria also released 25 juniors to Birkalla.

Birkalla's promotion chances received a further boost with the appointment of 1967 SA Youth team coach Cliff Votier as their coach.

— A.C.

# SLAVIA SHOULD MAKE AMPOL SEMIFINALS

— From BOB LOW —

Slavia and Hakoah will meet at Olympic Park on Friday night in the second semifinal of the Ampol Cup with the winner due to meet Croatia in the final on Friday March 8.

Slavia and Hakoah are two worthy contenders, both have played well in their previous games although the Port Melbourne side slipped somewhat against Croatia.

With a much more impressive cup record than of their opponents, Slavia are slightly favored.

With a formidable defence of Schroif, Livingstone, Randles, Reed, Cook their opponents, Slavia selectors may be tempted to switch Randles and Reed in an effort to improve the left-back position caused by the transfer of David High to Hellas.

In the Slavia attack, which is likely to be named from six players Savage, Kraus, Jurecki, Reid, Kerr and Rainey, the question is who will be omitted.

Savage was stood down in the last game but as a potential scorer could be recalled.

Whichever selection Slavia will make either in defence or attack, they will have a first class side and one which has few equals in the State League.

Hakoah who have made fewer changes than any other side in the Ampol Cup and are so far undefeated with one win and two draws, are also a well-knit and well-balanced side.

Unless Alan Stenhouse is reintroduced at wing-half their defence should be on these lines: O'Hara, Keith, O'Neill, Murney, Van Alphen and Baker.

In attack too, they should be on usual lines with the five coming from Fry, Armstrong, Petersen, Anderson, Smith, Conley and Purdie.

Hakoah have a score to settle with Slavia.

Last season the Port Melbourne side smashed their record of seven games without defeat by hammer-

ing them to the tune of 5-1.

Even so, I doubt if this in itself is a big enough incentive for the Middle Park side to break effectively through the Slavia barrier.

One thing about this

game: it will be played in the old tradition — straight forward soccer with no frills.

I tip Slavia to win for one main reason: they are less likely to crack under pressure than Hakoah.

## Shaky defence beat Juventus

With the exception of goalie Ian McDonald, left-back Alan Gentry and wing-half Jimmy Millar, the Juventus defence crumbled under pressure from Croatia and contributed largely to their exit from the 1968 Ampol Cup semifinals.

It was pathetic at times to see some of the Juventus rearguard shuffling and lumbering along and not the least unsuccessful was player-coach Mario Corti who in his previous two games as a stop-gap centre-half had excelled.

Still, Juventus were well in the game all through which was fought at a tear-away pace and climaxed by vigorous body clashes which resulted late in the game in Eric Norman, their right-winger, being ordered off after a clash with Jim McKay of Croatia.

Juventus had their chances to forge ahead through efforts by Ian Currie, Tommy McCall and Dario Epifano, but all were blocked or saved by Mike Kovacek before Croatia ran into the lead through a blistering goal by Billy Vojtek after 26 minutes.

In the second half, Juventus piled on the pressure but their attack got disheartened with the first time and effective tackling and clearances of a stuffy Croatia defence.

Just 90 seconds from the final whistle and against the run of play, Croatia snatched a second goal which

put them in an unbeatable position through a quick thrust upfield by Jim McKay.

Juventus v. Croatia 0-2 (Vojtek and J. McKay).

Teams: Juventus: McDonald, Sonsini, Gentry, Della Rocca, Corti, Millar, Norman, McCall, Currie, Malloy, Epifano.

Croatia: Kovacek, Friganovic, Bot, Rau, Gunn, McArthur, McIntyre, Mc-Meehan, Vojtek, McKay, Glaser.

Summing up: Slow-moving and uncertain in defence and failing to grab several good scoring chances killed Juventus' hopes.

Croatia's defence adopted the right methods of standing on no ceremony as they cleared every ball as quickly as possible.

Polonia v. Alexander 3-0. Polonia easily defeated Alexander in a curtain-raiser before the first Ampol Cup semifinal.

Playing fast open and on the ground soccer the Polish side were never in any real trouble in ramming in three goals without reply mainly from the great work of Bert Gajda, emphasising the many weaknesses of Alexander.

## Goals galore at Hindmarsh

Tall scoring was the order of the night last Friday when a tally of 17 goals were netted in two Ampol Cup games at Hindmarsh.

In near century heat, WA Hellas crushed Austria 6-0 and Victoria defeated Beograd 7-4.

Victoria, the only team in the competition unhindered by defensive tactics, made their usual whirlwind start to be two goals up after four minutes.

Beograd, stung by the early reversal, fought back to level with only 10 minutes of the game gone.

Beograd's all-attacking style provided entertaining soccer, but two bad defensive lapses gave Jimmy Wright a gift goal and then Bob Huider conceded a penalty.

Beograd reduced the deficit through young Mitija Marusic just before half time.

Both teams were expected to wilt in the second term but surprisingly Victoria

kept up the pressure to outlast their younger opponents.

Victoria, with Peter McKenzie tireless in attack, overran Beograd to score three more goals.

A goal from Alex Zervas after five minutes and a superb long shot from Billy Birch a minute later gave Hellas a commanding start against Austria.

Despite the heat, Austria were eager and energetic and didn't deserve to be trailing by two goals at that stage.

However, Birch hit home another goal before half time.

Hellas were untroubled to double their score in the second half with Alec Byrne netting two and Birch completing his hat trick.

— Allan Crisp

Former St. George-Budapest winger, Alan Hillhouse, who was transferred for a fair fee to Lions in Melbourne early last year is up for transfer as he has returned to Sydney. Hillhouse never really settled in Melbourne and in fact in the last five games he played for Lions paid his own fare from Sydney to come here and play for the Essendon team.

— Bob Low

## Cook's tour of Melbourne

● Raymond King, the 19-year-old left-winger of JUST and a product of their juniors is up for transfer after having played a considerable number of excellent games in their first team in the past two seasons. Ray, a Scot, comes from Edinburgh.

● On trial with Wilhelmina last weekend was Chris Wissik, the Swan Athletic goalkeeper, who represented West Australia in the Merdeka competition last year.

● Terry Vowles, the Wilhelmina fullback who is now in Sydney should be a good capture for a NSW side needing a dependable defender. The powerfully built Englishman would have automatically clinched a regular first team place with Wilhelmina now back in the State League, had he stayed in Melbourne.

● Soccer has now been played for the past two weeks in near century temperatures. Yet the players of all the competing sides have not complained and in every game they have pulled out their best under most difficult conditions.

● Due to the prolonged century temperatures and the Ampol Cup commitments, it seems unlikely that the proposed full scale trial game between Victorian XI and a State League XI will take place before Victoria meets New South Wales. Unless, of course, the weather changes.

● Missing from the Juventus line-up in their last two games, forward Dino Di Marchi, a product of the Juventus juniors, had good reasons for his absence. He recently signed another contract and got married.

● The month-long coaching courses run by the Victorian Soccer Coaches Federation at Monash University have been acclaimed as a huge success by Ollie Norris, the technical director of coaching in Victoria. Norris is the former Middlesbrough, Bournemouth and Wilhelmina forward.

— Bob Low

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## POLONIA NEED POINTS BADLY

— From ALLAN CRISP in Adelaide —

Polonia will be desperate for points when they clash with WA Hellas in tonight's (Friday March 1) late Ampol Cup game at Hindmarsh.

Polonia, last year's finalists, must win or face a last-ditch survival game against Croatia next Friday night.

After a series of disappointing performances, Polonia bounced back into semifinal calculations by toppling USC Lion 2-0.

Surprisingly, Polonia scored this victory without their key forward, Eddy Typek and powerhouse defender Loucas Kouzapa.

Typek was omitted because of indifferent form and Kouzapa was nursing an injured leg.

With captain Rick Hamence recovered from injury and Henry Manka restored to midfield instead of in attack, Polonia looked more like the side who had captured the imagination of the fans last year.

Despite their resurgence, I expect Hellas to win.

Hellas, with Billy Birch back and in the deadly

form he revealed against Austria, have an attack capable of unsettling any defence.

Although Beograd are out of the running for a semifinal berth, their quicksilver attacking method could prove a headache for USC Lion in tonight's early game.

Lion, beaten in their last outing by Polonia, must prove that this loss was just a temporary slump.

Lion's attack failed to function against Polonia.

Big Ian Monan was out of touch and John Baines appeared to be still suffering from the effects of a previous injury.

Lion are favored to win but there could easily be an upset if they don't solve their attacking problems.

Monday's games should bring wins to Victoria over Austria and Juventus over Beograd.

## Adelaide program

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

7.30 p.m. Beograd v. USC Lion

9.05 p.m. Polonia v. WA Hellas

MONDAY, MARCH 4

7.30 p.m. Victoria v. Austria

9.05 p.m. Beograd v. Juventus

All matches at Hindmarsh.

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# LATIN STARS SPARKLE THE BRIGHTEST

— By PAUL DEAN —

One of the popular pastimes of soccer writers all over the world is the annual game of selecting the world's best players and teams.

Obviously, the choices vary a great deal and subjective feelings often blur objectivity.

Perhaps the most widely accepted such "world teams" have been Eric Batty's, published towards the end of each year in the London "World Soccer."

I have made a survey of his "teams" since they were first published in December 1960 — eight years, all told.

These were his teams:

1960: Grosics; Bergmark, Santamaria, N. Santos-Verges, Zanetic; Julinho, Pele, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.

1961: Grosics; Bergmark, Santamaria, N. Santos; Blanchflower, Bonga; Kubala, Pele, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.

1962: Fraydi; D. Santos, Germano, Jusufi; Zito, Masopust; Garrincha, Pele, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.

1963: Yachin; D. Santos, Maldini, Jusufi; Coluna, Baxter; Kopa, Pele, Di Stefano, Puskas, Suarez.

1964: Yachin; Burgnich, Popluhar, Facchetti; Coluna, Masopust; Augusto, Pele, Di Stefano, Law, Suarez.

1965: Costa Pereira; D. Santos, Germano, Facchetti; Coluna, Orlando; Augusto, Mazzola, Eusebio, Pele, Suarez.

1966: Yachin; Chalanov, Beckenbauer, Facchetti, Goncalves, Coluna; Yakimov, Pele, Bene, Farkas, Corso.

1967: Yachin; Coluna, Popluhar, Facchetti; Beckenbauer, Meszoly; Bene, Mazzola, Hurst, Yakimov, Farkas.

Of course, some of Batty's selections were surprising; like naming Beckenbauer at stopper, Meszoly at wing-half, Coluna at fullback, etc. — but I don't want to argue these points.

In all probabilities, he simply had to find room in his team for some of the players and so switched them into positions where they seldom, if ever, play.

Adding up the "votes" this would be Batty's World XI over the 1960-67 period: Yachin; D. Santos, Germano, Facchetti; Coluna, Masopust; Augusto, Pele, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento (or Suarez).

One of the most remarkable features of his listings is that only one Englishman has ever been selected for the eight years: Geoff Hurst.

The fact that Batty is an ardent admirer of Ron Greenwood, coach of West Ham United and that Hurst is the West Ham spearhead may have influenced his views.

Batty included in his 1960 team Ante Zanetic, then with Hajduk Split of Yugoslavia — and at present coach of Sydney Croatia.

Some players, well known if not world famous, have missed out altogether: Gilmar in goal, Marzolini, Matrai and Schnellinger at fullback, Moore at half, Hamrin, Didi, Amarildo, Bobby Charlton, Albert,

Rivera, Seeler, Spencer and Simoes as forwards.

Splitting up the teams into various nationalities shows that Batty has a strong leaning towards Latin football.

Of the 88 places in his eight teams, Spain gained 18, Brazil 16, Portugal 12 and Italy nine.

(But let's make a distinction here. In the Spanish category we include Di Stefano, Santamaria, Kubala and Puskas. Without these Spain's quota would shrink down to 10 while Hungary's would rise from seven to 12 and Argentina's from zero to five).

The functional type of football played mainly by England, Germany, Sweden, the USSR, etc. doesn't seem to appeal to Batty; the only German he included (twice) was Beckenbauer, the only Swede, Bergmark, and the only Russian, Yachin.

## VISITORS DEFEATED

The 4-2 win by the NSW Combined Second Division over the Papua-New Guinea touring side at Corrimall last Saturday was not as convincing as the score indicates.

In fact, the visitors played some good football at times, and only first class goalkeeping by Balgownie's Bobby Jones denied them the lead at half-time.

Roger Bamforth, Banks-town's centre-forward, spear-headed the Combined XI attack, which although they only got together two weeks ago, functioned very effectively.

It was Bamforth who opened the score when he drove home a hard shot in the 30th minute.

The Papuans counter-attacked and in the 37th minute Michael Dobbin equalized.

However, the locals struck back and only three minutes later Bamforth drew the opposing goalkeeper out to beat him with a well-placed shot to lead 2-1 at halftime.

After the resumption, Michael Dobbin, one of the best forwards in the touring side, nearly scored, but it was the home team that went further ahead with a goal by Carruthers (Balgownie) in the 68th minute.

Peter Pont (Western Suburbs) increased the locals' lead further in the 80th minute, but three minutes later Matthew Raka converted a perfect pass from the right flank to bring the score to a final 4-2.

NSW XI: Jones; Jamieson, Campbell; Okorn, Bijkerk, McKnight; Giacometti, Madden, Bamforth, Carruthers, Pont.

Papua-New Guinea: Sowni; Hobart, Sili; Kateu, Kau, Oliva; Dulaiha, Dobbin, Raka, Kumalau, Samsden.

— Charles Spiteri

## Jock Stein speaks

# THE WORLD CAN'T DO WITHOUT A CELTIC...

Jock Stein, the manager behind Celtic's fabulous rise to the top in European soccer last season, is interviewed here by Marcel Gillot for "France Football," the French magazine which "invented" the European Champions' Cup.

As a background to the interview that follows a run-down on Stein's career would not go amiss.

Stein, 46, started life as a miner. In 1951 he joined Celtic as a centre-half from Second Division Albion Rovers.

Seriously injured at the ankle, he hung up his boots and moved to Dunfermline as coach.

In 1964 he managed Hibernians, and in February 1965 returned to Celtic, whose fortunes were at a low ebb and living in the shadow of bitter rivals, Rangers.

The rest is now history...

**Question:** To what do you attribute the phenomenal, unprecedented successes achieved by Celtic last season?

**Answer:** Primarily to the splendid physical condition of every player. I am a passionate physical fitness crank, and I've instilled this notion into every one of my players. Most of our training sessions are directed towards maintaining and improving condition. Athletics and weight-lifting are compulsory at each training. My players, however, are not Trappist monks. They drink and smoke like everybody else, but moderately. I believe one must mix pleasure with hard work and I encourage the players to relax socially as much as they can between training. I also feel that our position at the top of the Scottish league right at the start of the 1966-67 season helped a lot subsequently. Celtic was the team to beat. Every opponent wanted to lick us and played the match of their lives against us. This, in turn, forced our players to give the best of themselves, not only against Rangers or Hibernians or Hearts as in the past, but every week against every opponent. This tremendous will to always win undoubtedly paved the way for our European Cup victory.

## Decline denied

**Q:** Celtic were knocked out in the first round of the current European Cup, and on the home front, are trailing Rangers. Are they on the decline?

**A:** At first glance this may seem so, but I must emphatically deny that Celtic are on the skids, as some people claim. I consider our first round defeat to Kiev as an unfortunate accident. When the Russians beat us at home they pulled everything off. Celtic, on the other hand, were atrociously unlucky. I'm certain if we played Kiev 10 times, Celtic would win eight. As for Rangers' lead, the Scottish competition isn't over yet... However, in all fairness, I must point out that even last season they were very close to Celtic in standard, as their berth in the European Cupwinners' Cup final proved. Celtic are definitely not on the decline. Key players, such as Gemmell, Murdoch, Johnstone and Wallace are as good as ever and I feel the team as a whole is playing as well as last season.

**Q:** Your tip for this year's European Champions Cup?

**A:** Juventus or Real Madrid will succeed Celtic in 1968. If they meet before the final, then I think Vasas of Hungary or Benfica will qualify for the final.

**Q:** After your successes with Celtic, wouldn't the post of Scottish national team manager tempt you?

**A:** Not in the least. That post is the hottest seat in British soccer. Scotland's national team is at the mercy of the English clubs, where many of our top players operate. We are no longer the masters of our own soccer destiny in Scotland. The Scottish national team also doesn't play enough internationals for the position of team manager to be satisfying. I don't feel there's anything worthwhile I can achieve with players I only see four or five times a year. I prefer to look after young players who are keen to learn rather than established ones on a higher level.

## Colleagues admired

**Q:** Do you greatly admire any of your colleagues?

**A:** Many: Ramsey, Herrera, Cajkowsky, Helmut Schoen and Matt Busby, just to name a few. Ramsey transformed a very ordinary collection of players into a world champion side; Herrera's Italian and European record speaks for itself; Cajkowsky because he is the first top world class player who became an equally world-famous coach; Schoen for nearly the same reasons as Ramsey and Busby because he overcame physical and moral setbacks to lead Manchester United to the undisputed top spot in post-war English soccer.

**Q:** If you had a free hand, and an open cheque book to recruit foreign players for Celtic, whom would you choose?

**A:** I would be a liar if I didn't say Pele. I think every coach dreams of having a Pele in his team. Otherwise the players I've got now will do nicely, thank you, though I wouldn't sneeze at a Beckenbauer, who would fit well into Scottish soccer, Bobby

Charlton, George Best or Albert. These are the players I rate highest in the world today.

**Q:** Would you suggest any alterations to the laws of soccer as they stand now?

**A:** Not really. I see nothing wrong with any of them, certainly not the off-side rule which would only diminish the enterprise and ingenuity of forwards if it were abolished or even modified. One thing I'd like to see, however: a uniform, world-wide ruling on charging the goalkeeper. This causes untold trouble whenever a British team plays abroad.

**Q:** Your opinion on refereeing?

**A:** I have no complaints generally. As far as I am concerned, the referee is the only boss on the field. If players made as few mistakes as referees, the standard of play everywhere would reach fabulous heights.

**Q:** Why has it taken Scottish soccer so long to re-emerge as a world force?

**A:** Scots are among the world's greatest traditionalists. They abhor radical changes. For decades we rested on our laurels, convinced that Scottish soccer was still the best in the world, though there was nothing in our results to suggest this. In the past few years, however, we've started learning from abroad and have assimilated European and South American methods. At present I would say that

Scotland is more progressive and receptive than England in soccer.

## Africa's future

**Q:** What does the future hold in store for soccer throughout the world generally?

**A:** Soccer all over the world has a tremendous future. As long as man exists, soccer will be played and will remain one of the greatest phenomena of the human race. I am looking forward to the day when soccer becomes a religion in every country, just as it is in Glasgow. The more countries share in the big international successes, the better for the game. Africa, I think, will be the next continent to make its mark on world soccer — and in a big way, at that. Then Asia will follow, and by the 21st century soccer will be truly universal.

**Q:** And what about Celtic's own future?

**A:** Celtic will continue to prosper. Scotland, and Europe, if I may be so presumptuous, cannot do without a strong, successful Celtic. The Intercontinental Cup, and eventually when soccer becomes universal, a truly representative world title for champion clubs, must be Celtic's aims, and of course many more Scottish championships and cups and more European wins. I think the club can reasonably expect these successes in the years ahead.

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# FLOTTA LAURA